

Vegetables

by Sara Anderson

A scrumptious first feast for eyes and ears of toddlers young and old.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Who can tell me what a tomato looks like?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if you can name all these vegetables?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Vegetables*

- rhubarb: plant with edible stalks
- artichoke: a large flower bud with parts that can be eaten
- turnip: a white rounded fleshy root
- eggplant: a large vegetable with shiny purple skin
- asparagus: a spear-shaped young plant shoots
- zucchini: a small summer squash that is shaped like a cucumber with a smooth thin dark-green or yellow skin
- broccoli: heads of tight green, purple, or white flower buds
- spinach: a plant with dark green leaves
- radish: a crisp round root with a red or white skin, eaten raw

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What vegetables do you like?
- What color is rhubarb?
- Celery, cucumbers, green beans and artichokes are green. What other vegetables are green?
- What vegetable is yellow and grows on a cob? Do you like corn on the cob?
- Who likes broccoli? Asparagus? Zucchini?
- What other vegetable looks like a sweet potato?

Do

Guess the Vegetable

Find pictures of all these vegetables in magazines, cut them out, and have the children draw one out of a hat and tell what it is?

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